Application No.: 10/806,431

Docket No.: 200207452-1 (1509-495)

## **REMARKS**

Claims 20 and 21 have been amended to overcome the rejection thereof based on 35 USC 101. While applicant is aware of a decision by the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit ruling that claims directed to signals are not in conformance with 35 USC 101, applicant also believes the applicant in that case has filed a writ of certiorari with the Supreme Court to have the decision of the Court of Appeals reviewed. If the Supreme Court accepts certiorari and overrules the Court of Appeals, applicant reserves the right to reinstate claims 20 and 21 in a format consistent with the format of claims 20 and 21 as filed.

The claims have been amended to more positively distinguish over Wesby, US Patent Publication 2005/0222933, previously relied on by the examiner to reject all claims based on anticipation under 35 USC 102(e). The claims now require (1) the element graph to be mapped prior to status messages being actually transmitted and (2) representations of various elements to be present on the element graph. The basis for (1) is found in paragraph 0073 of the application as published, while the basis for (2) is found in paragraph 0060 of the application as published. Paragraph 0141 of Westby indicates the screenshot depicting the processing and data storage functions performed by wireless module 10 are visualized in real-time functionality. Consequently, neither requirement (1) nor (2) of the amended claims is found in Wesby.

It is also problematic that Westby discloses many of the other operations and features defined by the claims. For example, there does not appear to be a basis to conclude Westby discloses the requirement of claim 1 for ascertaining, at a higher-level service element, whether a status message pertains to a lower-level service element connected with the higher-level service element. The office action fails to indicate what elements of Westby are considered to be a higher-level service element and a lower-level service element.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, allowance is in order.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 08-2025 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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AML/cjf